

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections of the application are respectfully requested in view of the amendments and remarks herewith, which place the application into condition for allowance. The present amendment is being made to facilitate prosecution of the application.

I. STATUS OF THE CLAIMS AND FORMAL MATTERS

Claims 3-5 and 7-9 are currently pending. Claim 3 is independent. Claims 3-5 and 7-9 are hereby amended. Claims 1, 2 and 6 are hereby canceled without prejudice or disclaimer of subject matter. Support for this amendment is provided throughout the Specification as originally filed. No new matter has been introduced. Changes to claims are not made for the purpose of patentability within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §101, §102, §103, or §112. Rather, these changes are made simply for clarification and to round out the scope of protection to which Applicants are entitled.

II. REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 102(e)

Pending claims 3-5 and 7-9 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as allegedly anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,674,538 to Takahashi.

Claim 3, as amended, recites, *inter alia*:

“...a data memory unit including a video recorder portion; and

a data processing unit including a printer unit for printing picture data,

wherein said data input/output unit, said data memory unit and said data processing unit are housed in a single housing and are connected in parallel to a data bus so as to allow for a data exchange to be executed selectively and directly between respective units without need of interposing any additional unit.” (emphasis added)

As understood by Applicants, U.S. Patent No. 6,674,538 to Takahashi relates to an image reproduction system that includes a data bus for transmitting a compressed and coded digital image signal, in which compression mode information related to the compressing and coding of the digital image signal is added to the digital image signal. The system also includes a first input device that inputs the digital image signal transmitted by the data bus and a second input device that inputs an analog image signal. A converter converts the analog image signal inputted by the second input device to a digital signal. A buffer memory selectively stores either the digital image signal inputted by the first input device or the digital signal converted by the converter.

It is respectfully submitted that the cited portions of U.S. Patent No. 6,674,538 to Takahashi (hereinafter, merely "Takahashi"), as applied by the Examiner, do not teach or suggest the above-recited features of claim 3. Specifically, Takahashi does not teach or suggest a data processing unit including a printer unit for printing picture data, as recited in claim 3. Indeed, Figure 1 of Takahashi discloses that the printer (91) is disposed in the video printer (14).

Furthermore, Applicants submit that Takahashi does not teach or suggest that the data input/output unit, the data memory unit and the data processing unit are housed in a single housing. Indeed, Applicants submit that Takahashi teaches that the VTR unit (90) and video printer (14) are disposed in separate housings and connected by data bus (26).

Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that independent claim 3 is patentable.

III. DEPENDENT CLAIMS

The other claims in this application are each dependent from claim 1, discussed above, and are therefore believed patentable for at least the same reasons. Since each dependent

claim is also deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, however, the individual reconsideration of the patentability of each on its own merits is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

In the event the Examiner disagrees with any of statements appearing above with respect to the disclosure in the cited reference, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner specifically indicate those portions of the reference providing the basis for a contrary view.

Please charge any additional fees that may be needed, and credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 50-0320.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is believed that all of the claims in this application are patentable and Applicants respectfully request early passage to issue of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,
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